Railway Protection Force with deployment of aproximately 3,165 RPF personnel daily. These deployments are in addition to 2,118 escort parties of Government Railway Police (GRP) deployed on the trains, consisting of 4,872 personnel.

**Pending rail projects in Tamil Nadu**

2988. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of pending rail projects in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the reasons for delay in the implementation of these projects; and

(c) the time by which the projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) Pending projects are considered as those projects which have been included in the budget but clearances are awaited. No such project is pending in Tamil Nadu. However, 02 new line, 09 gauge conversion, 06 doubling and 02 electrification projects falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu are in progress. These projects are in various stages of progress and are being progressed as per availability of resources.

**Vacancies in Railways in Madurai Division**

2989. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the vacancies of different categories of employees in Southern Railway and especially in Madurai Division;

(b) whether due to a large number of vacancies, there is a possibility of train accidents; and

(c) if so, the action taken to fill up the vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) The vacancies in Southern Railway & vacancies in Madurai Division are given category-wise as under:—

| Southern Railway | | | Madurai Division | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Category | Category | Category | Category | Category | Category |
| 'A' & 'B' | 'C' | 'D' | 'A'& 'B' | 'C' | 'D' |
| 44 | 7800 | 2081 | 3 | 761 | 358 |